

Park & Recreation Board Minutes
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 612 N. Main Street
June 8, 2023

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chris Retterath, President of the Board, at 6:00 PM

Present: Chris Retterath, Ady Jerke, Clayton Deuter, Dennis Thompson

Absent: Pat Skinner, Luke Nrdn, Adam Schulz. Council Liaison: Marty Barington

Staff present: Kevin Nelson, Kevin DeVires, Angel DeWaard, Steve Roth, Jeremy Nielsen

2. Citizen's Input

3. DELEGATIONS

4. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Motion Deuter, Second Jerke to approve Agenda. Motion carried.

5. Minutes

Minutes of the May 11, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Motion Jerke, Second Thompson to approve the May 11, 2023 Minutes as read. Motion carried.

6. Approve Financial Reports

Motion Deuter, Second Thompson to approve the Bills as submitted with Jerke abstaining. Motion carried.

7. Department Reports

Recreation Board Report

May 12 – June 8

Kevin DeVries

Programs:

Program Registration has been going pretty well. The swim lessons we have been able to offer have filled up fast. We're still not sure if we can add anymore in session 2 & 3 yet, but we hope to be able to have more in the fall/winter. Our baseball and softball programs are close to the numbers from a year ago. Travel teams do hurt our numbers, but we are excited about the DWU coaches being involved and the word gets out to attract even more kids. Most programs will get underway the week of June 5th.

Todd has been busy putting schedules and teams together to send out by June 1st.

As of 6/1 these are the program participant numbers: Baseball – 98, Softball – 59, Tennis – 123, Dakota Kids & Fab Fours – 61, Track 52, Gardening – 17, DIY programs – 28, Esports – 20, Art – 3, Safe sitter – 16, games & racquet sports – 24, Biking – 18, swim lessons – 450.

The outdoor aquatic center will open on June 1st. I think by the week of June 12 we will be able to stay open until 7:00 p.m. Jamie has worked several nights and weekends over the last month to hire and train more guards. We are up to 31 now, which is amazing compared to a month ago.

Recreation Center:

The indoor aquatic center has stayed busy. As of now, we won't be having open swim during the summer, so anyone under the age of 18 MUST HAVE A PARENT with them to come in and swim. If things work out with the lifeguard schedule, we may be able to add a couple days a week of open swim but we need to see how things work at the outdoor pool.

The old pool remodel is still coming along nicely. They have all the sheet rock up and will be taping and texturing the walls in the next couple weeks, followed by the ceiling and tile in the hallway. We are putting out for bid to re-tile the rest of the building with the same product and hope to get that done by the fall.

We installed the new steam generator on May 30th. Hopefully, we won't have any issues with this one.

Now that school is out, we, Thomas and Adam are very busy with athlete training. We have a good range in age, so making all those schedules work for the kids is a challenge, but they do a great job of working the kids in groups throughout the day.

Thomas is also continuing to work with state department of health on more wellness grant funding and programs available.

I want to commend all my staff for all the work they put in leading into the summer with program and staff training, schedules and everything that goes into a busy summer. They do a great job all year round.

Parks & Forestry Board Report June 2023

- Working at the outdoor pool getting it ready to open on June 1st
- Working at the Campground moving, cleaning up leaves and beaches
- Put out the handicap fishing piers
- Put all the lake buoys in
- Repair the dock at the sportsman's boat ramp
- All the flowers were planted in the Hitchcock gardens, Patton Young, and the big pots at the Corn Palace and Chambers
- Put up banners downtown
- Lots of mowing
- Starting to trim all the parks
- Irrigation Maintenance in all the irrigated parks
- Cleaned up tree pile around the lake again
- Grinding stumps around lake where the volunteers have been working
- Installed the donation sign at Kiwanis Woodlot playground
- Watering newly planted trees
- Put up mosquito traps and treating any standing water

PARK BOARD REPORT – SPORTS COMPLEX June 8, 2023

CADWELL:

- Spring softball and baseball is done. Legion, junior legion, teener white and black have started.
- Teener tournament last weekend, 10 games Friday, 10 games Saturday. Lowell Rang this weekend, 59 teams. Harve's tournament next weekend. Make up for Kiwanis tournament is June 24th.
- Park and rec started baseball and softball. Monday – Thursday, 9-noon, goes until July 20th.
- Lots of irrigation work.
- Put up Drake scoreboard. We do need to add an advertisement on the back. That will be paid for and put up by Muth Electric.
- Men's and women's slow pitch up and going.
- Staff has been: mowing, weed eating, painting shelters, field preps, trimming branches and shelterbelt south of dog park, garbage's and bathrooms daily.
- Full staffed last week.

SOCCER:

- MSA youth soccer is done. Competitive league goes until this weekend or June 25th. Done on Fields 7 and 8, Still using 2, 3 and 9. No games.
- Mowing, irrigation, Painting and cleaning.
- Took all the sprinkler heads out of field 10. Not sure when they are going to start with concrete and bleachers for rodeo. Still have to cap or change some main line irrigation between fields 9 and 10.

June 2023

Director's Board Report

Campground Hosts

Hosts Cindy and James arrived to the campground on May 23, so they had need to 'hit the ground running,' with campers already on site. Having only one host couple this year (versus the normal two), means that during their rotating 'off duty' week, daily chores and responsibilities have been left in the hands of FT staff. Alex and Angel are carrying that load fairly well, at this point in the season. We're still hopeful that another qualified host couple will inquire and be hired for the remainder of the season. Related advertising does continue.

Dog Park

We received some additional praise for clean-up of brush and trees in and around the dog park this past week. Also, the additions of the donated picnic table and wire spool seem to be greatly appreciated by park users.

Also, the complex crew has added dog bag dispensers at several points around the perimeter of the complex. At least one garbage can was added or will be added as well.

Veteran's Park Retaining Wall

The unintentional wall damage, which was done to the wall during staff snow removal at the site, ended up getting repaired by city crews, without replacement of damaged blocks, in

advance of Memorial Day Weekend. It was made presentable, but it won't be totally resolved until the damaged blocks get replaced.

Restroom Vandalism at Pioneer Park

Ongoing vandalism in the restrooms at Pioneer Park has left us questioning where to go from here, in terms of re-opening the restrooms. At present, both restrooms are closed, as the sink in both the men's and women's restrooms have been busted off the wall, for the second time since last summer. Yes, a total of four sinks have been shattered. At present, we're awaiting the replacement sinks but are also questioning if we should just leave them closed for at least one year. I suspect that such wouldn't hurt the feelings of the culprits but rather cause disappointment for 'normal' users of the park. Staff have made the call regarding occasional extended closures in the past but will seek guidance from the park board on this particular location/issue at the June board meeting.

Public Access Clean-ups

Volunteer clean-up of brush (mainly buckthorn and honeysuckle) and some trees and branches continues, under the guidance of Steve and Kevin, and under the direct supervision of John McLeod.

Great strides have been made along the Day Camp and Sportsmen Club stretch, and much more work has been taking place at the Public Beach, in terms of tree trimming and removal. Some replacement trees will also be planted as conditions permit.

The focus of volunteer efforts will now turn to Camp Arroya, where the majority of work will take place from the park entrance to the firepit. Trail improvements (tree trimming/ removal along both side of the trails and groundwork) will span the entire length of the camp.

Celia Kelley Pines

Utilities work was performed along the north side of Celia Kelley Pines last year, extending to south side of the road west the "The Pines," as well. Further clean-up and re-planting are still to come, and this work is the responsibility of the contractor, not the Parks Dept.

Soccer Field 10

Soccer Field 10, and a stretch to the north and east of the field, has now been leased to the Corn Palace Stampede Rodeo. They'll not have a rodeo on site this year, but it has already changed the department's work at this site. Irrigation and related wiring need to be capped and/or re-routed, and sprinkler heads have been pulled to use as back-ups for other sites. Bleachers and other amenities will be moved to the site within the coming weeks. Maintenance of field 10, from the City's stand point, has now ceased.

Patton Young Inclusive Playground

The final equipment designs have been determined. The supplier is now completing artist renderings of three different color schemes. We're also pricing, to see if the budget will allow, for their installation of the rubber-tile surface under the equipment, versus staff. The order will be placed by the end of June.

8. Approve 2023-2024 MFSC Agreement and/or Amended Agreement

Nielsen reviewed the 2023-2024 MFSC Agreement and Amended Agreement with the Board, noting the amended agreement 20(a) removed the sentence "Hockey tournaments on weekends shall have first priority to the use of the Facility to the extent required to accommodate such event. After a brief discussion, Motion Deuter, Second Thompson to

approve the 2023-2024 MFSC Amended Agreement. Motion carried.

9. Approve MSHA 2023-2024 Amended Agreement if #8 above "Amended" is Approved

Motion Deuter, Second Thompson to approve the MSHA 2023-2024 Amended Agreement.
Motion carried.

10. Discussion - Pioneer Park Restrooms

Roth gave an overview to the Board of ongoing vandalism to the restrooms and Pioneer Park, resulting in both being closed down until repairs can be completed, noting this is happening in other parks as well. The Board held a brief discussion and noted if this continues to be an issue the Board will revisit this.

11. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 6:50 PM